

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: William W. Cimino Group Art Unit: 3763 Serial No. 09/829,678 Filed: April 19, 2001 Examiner: Jeremy Thistle Protective Sheath and For: Method for Ultrasonic **Probes**

40206.0001USC1

Commissioner for Patents Box Non-Fee Amendment Washington D.C. 20231

Attny Dckt No.

Express Mailing label number: EL 719663805 US

Date of Deposit: December 19, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Arlington VA 22202.3513

Name: Thomas H. Y

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated June 19, 2001 (the "Office Action").

I. AMENDMENTS

Please cancel claims 1 through 11.

Please add the following new claims:

A protective sheath for use with an elongate ultrasonic probe of an ultrasonic 12.

1